

LASCA LEAVES



Los Angeles County Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens

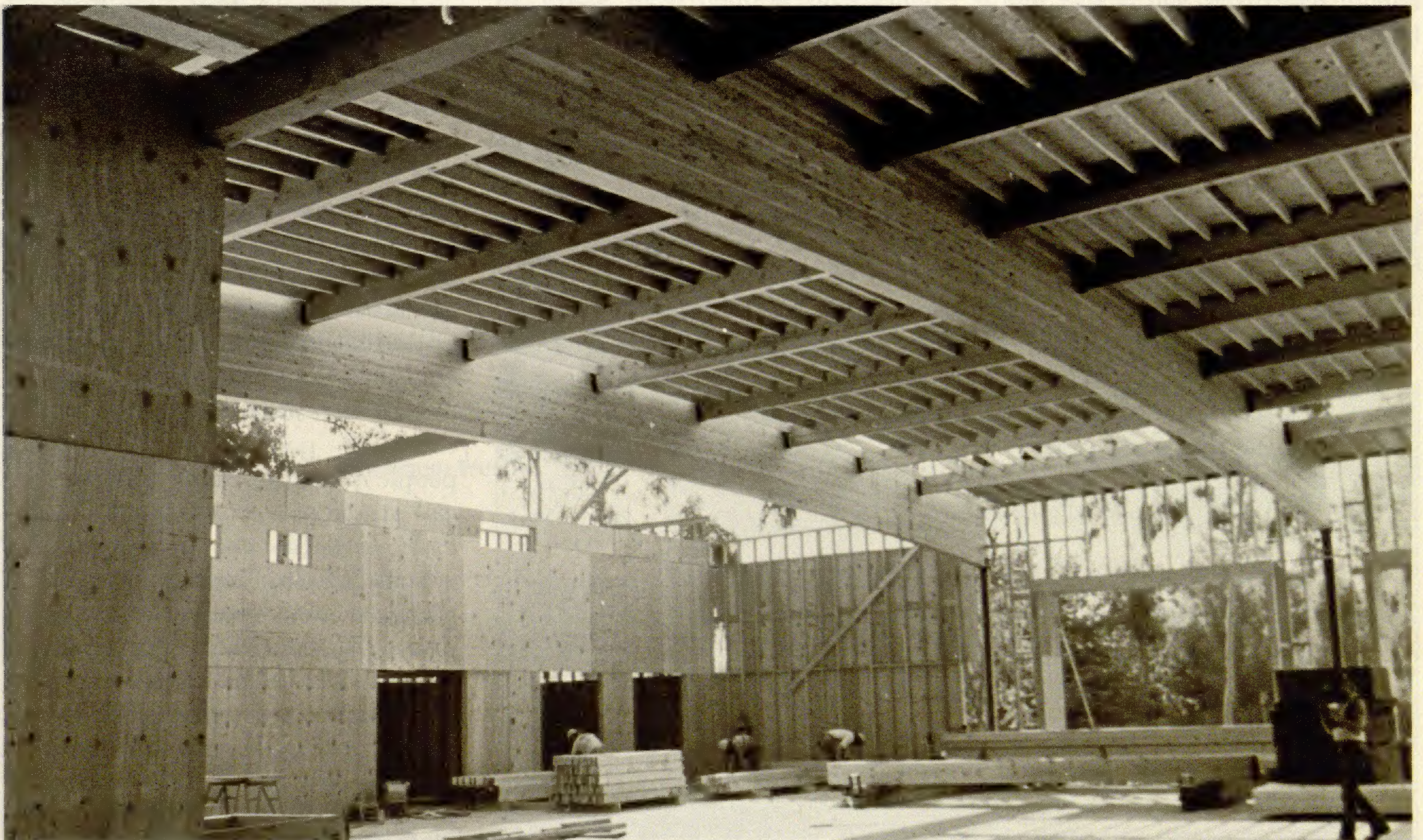
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FAIR

SHORTLY AFTER DEDICATION of the new Hall of Environmental Education at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, the hall will be opened for the first major public function. Appropriately enough, the inaugural event will be a gathering of persons vitally interested in en-

vironmental education. The CAEER (Co-operative Action Environmental Education Resources) Fair to be held March 14 was designed to benefit teachers and administrators of schools in Los Angeles and surrounding counties. The Fair will also give members of the community an opportunity to observe and understand what is going on in environmental education. In addition,

many college students, conservation group members, park and recreation employees, youth organization leaders, and education volunteers can get new ideas on how to advance environmental awareness among young people.

Although sensitivity to the environment has been part of California school programs for years, there has not been a centralized forum in



LuAnn B. Munns

Huge laminated beams spanning the width of the new Hall of Environmental Education were maneuvered into place by a crane in early October.

this area where teachers could meet with individuals and spokesmen of organizations who were offering materials and expertise in the field.

Taking a cue from an environmental education fair which has successfully filled this need in Northern California for the past four years, representatives from the Arboretum, the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools, the Los Angeles Unified School District, and a multitude of other governmental and private agencies began putting together a similar fair. By the time they finished, they had designed a fair that will, for the first time, give Southern California teachers an idea of the full range of environmental education resources available to those who work with young people. The CAEER (pronounced *care*) Fair will reach hundreds of thousands of Southern California students, because the information teachers and youth leaders gather will be utilized in classrooms and in field work across the Southland.

At a series of workshops throughout the day speakers will demonstrate methods for instilling in students the environmental education fundamentals of inquiry and action. Fair organizers are convinced that by awakening students' curiosity and then moving them to act on the basis of their newly gained knowledge, teachers help students achieve an understanding of their responsibility for the total environment, both ecological and social. They feel that by giving leaders who teach young people access to the most current materials on environmental education, the fair will reach far into the future, encouraging young people to develop habits that, when practiced in adulthood, will insure the maintenance of a quality environment in the next century.

Exhibits by about 100 private businesses and non-profit organizations interested in promoting environmental awareness among elementary and secondary school students will be open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. all day.

Publishers offering books and other materials relevant to environmental education will have a separate area in the hall devoted to their displays. Another area will be set aside for showing films and other audio-visual materials.

To help defray the cost of putting on the non-profit event, there will be a \$2 admission charge for the Fair in addition to the usual \$1 Arboretum entrance fee.

JAPANESE DOLL AND CULTURAL FAIR

JAPANESE ARTISANS have earned renown over the centuries for their ability to capture the essence of an object with a few well-placed lines. In the Western world, two of the best known examples of this Japanese ability to recreate life in miniature are the exquisitely detailed dolls and artistically dwarfed bonsai trees. Visitors to the Japanese doll show and cultural fair at South Coast Botanic Garden the weekend of Feb. 28 and Mar. 1 will see a wide collection of both dolls and bonsai.

Although dolls are usually thought of as playthings for children, "ningyo," the Japanese word for doll, has a much broader meaning, including in the term any image of the human body from a wild-eyed demon to a chubby child. Each type of doll has a particular name. Kimekomi, the dolls that will be featured during the show, are authentically costumed portrayals of everyday people from the many different social strata of ancient Japan. Especially colorful are images of the citizens of the "Drifting World," a pleasure zone near what is now Tokyo that flourished during the Edo period. Actors, courtesans, maids, and samurai are among the approximately 300 dolls collected by Mrs. Hiroko Uyesugi that will be displayed in the Horticultural Hall from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days of the fair.



Construction of the Hall of Environmental Education is progressing according to schedule. The building should be ready for use in March.



Kimekomi dolls and bonsai trees will be featured in an exhibit of Japanese artifacts at South Coast Botanic Garden.

The making of Kimekomi dolls originated about 300 years ago in Kyoto, Japan. Tadamori Takahashi, an artist commissioned to create statues for a Kyoto shrine, carved the first dolls from blocks of wood. He cut shallow channels around the neck, sash, and edges of the figure into which he then glued the seams of the kimono or other brightly colored garment. The name for this type of doll is derived from the word meaning "to insert into a groove." Few changes have evolved over the centuries, other than the current practice of constructing the

body of the doll from a molded and painted composite of paste and sawdust from the empress tree (*Paulownia tomentosa*).

Mrs. Uyesugi will give periodic demonstrations both days on how to make these dolls, including the technique for attaching the costumes using paste and sumptuous fabrics.

Complementing the diminutive figures of people will be the equally miniature landscapes created by several bonsai clubs. Each specimen displayed will be a duplicate under four feet tall of a tree or shrub that would normally grow to as much as 10 times that size.

Like Japanese dolls, bonsai has many different classifications, each determined by the artistic effect desired. Trees that appear to be cascading over a precipice are called kengai; trees with formal upright trunks are called chokkan, while the name for trees with a windswept appearance is fukinagashi. These classifications, as well as the numerous other styles that will be included in the show, have developed in the millennium or more that the art of bonsai has been popular in Japan.

At a preview reception on the evening of Feb. 27, invited guests will get an advance look at the many unusual displays. Mr. Kay Iizuka, a member of the Arboreta Board of Governors, will coordinate the reception.

LONG-RANGE WEATHER TRENDS

EVERY WEEKDAY AFTERNOON for the past 25 years, Dan Martel, plant recorder, has been making a detailed report on the day's weather at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum. From Mr. Martel's records are drawn the information on the number of sunny days, the exact amount of rain each day, and the other statistics that are summarized by the rows of numbers in the annual weather report in this issue of *Lasca Leaves*. The years of systematic weather observations have given Mr. Martel an intimate perspective into weather patterns shared by few of us who simply experience them. So when he compiled all his records into a 30-year weather recapitulation last October, Mr. Martel was able to draw several interesting interpretations from the basic statistics.

He pointed out that some record-breaking weather events are actually not all that unusual. For instance, the inversion layer that lasted for 10 days in early October, causing the most consecutive days with second-stage smog alerts in 10 years, can be expected in the Fall.

"Slow-moving pressure ridges often appear during the change of seasons," he said, "because the whole atmosphere is in a state of flux then."

Arboretum Weather Summary October 1, 1979 to September 30, 1980

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
Average maximum temperature	81	74	73	67	73	71	78	72	87	95	91	86
Average minimum temperature	54	46	44	49	48	46	50	51	55	62	63	58
Highest temperature	92	83	88	78	85	81	96	87	102	105	101	86
Lowest temperature	44	36	34	36	39	38	43	43	48	54	57	58
Number of clear days	17	24	22	12	14	11	16	3	26	28	18	12
Number of partly cloudy days	11	4	6	5	6	12	7	15	1	3	10	17
Number of cloudy days	4	3	3	12	9	8	7	12	3	0	2	1
Rain each month	1.21	.15	.66	9.9	17.8	4.39	.40	.55	0	.01	0	0

Lat. 34 deg. 08' 48" N., Long. 118 deg. 02' 59" W., Elevation 571.28 ft.

Other less newsworthy statistical changes in temperature patterns and rainfall amounts do, however, rate intense interest from Mr. Martel. Relatively recent changes in these two statistics have him looking forward to the coming weather season for possible confirmation of trends that may indicate alterations in the normal Mediterranean-type climate of Southern California.

He noted that before 1973 the month of June was typically overcast and cool with few hot days. But in the last seven years there have been a total of 33 June days when high temperatures each day were over 100°F. January and February, 1980, incidentally, were the warmest of any on record with the average low temperatures for the months being 49°F and 48°F, respectively,

instead of the normal 42°F and 43°F.

Rainfall patterns over the past 30 years have shown an even more remarkable change. In the 10-year period between 1950 and 1960 the average annual rainfall was 17.76 inches. Between 1960 and 1970 the average had risen to 19.75 yearly and continued to go up from 1970 to 1980 until the annual average during the decade reached 20.89 inches.

The past three years have also been the longest period of consecutive "wet" years in history. Rainfall records from Pasadena dating back to 1882 show that, although rainfall amounts may vary significantly each year, the century-long pattern has been for a year with abnormally high rainfall to be preceded and followed by drier than average years. If 1981 reverts to normal, Mr. Martel expects the year to be both colder and drier than the previous three years.

Perhaps even more noteworthy than the heavy rainfall has been the source of the storms that brought it. In the past, most of the rain to reach Southern California was carried in clouds sweeping down from Alaska, producing cold, fast-moving rainstorms. But worldwide changes in wind patterns over the past few years have brought instead slow-moving tropical storms from around the Hawaiian Islands to this area.

"These are the warm, wet storms that stay and dump heavy rain day after day, long after the ground is saturated, causing all the trouble with runoff and mud slides that we had last year," he said.

The weather season for 1981 that began Oct. 1 may be an important indicator of whether or not a big climatic change is indeed brewing, according to Mr. Martel. "I predict that the tropical storms will affect us less from now on unless — and this is the big if — the world weather climatic patterns really are changing," he said. "We'll just have to wait to see how this year's weather turns out."



LuAnn B. Munns

The photographer doing publicity shots at the Arboretum of Leslie Kim Kawai, 1981 Rose Queen, found problems seldom associated with photographing pretty girls. The best camera angle was from the middle of the Aquatic Garden, so he had to put on his wading boots and plant his tripod among the water lily pads.

By Jack McCaskill

Cattle Brands of Rancho Santa Anita



The first cattle to graze in this area bore the Mission San Gabriel brand.

CATTLE RANCHING and branding were introduced into California in 1769 when Franciscan priests traveling with the Portola expedition arrived, bringing with them a small herd of cattle for dairy and breeding purposes. As missions were constructed over the years, each in turn was stocked with cattle. These animals thrived, and eventually the sale of their hides and tallow represented a source of profit.

The first cattle to roam the area that would become the Rancho Santa Anita were from the Mission San Gabriel herd which at one time numbered as many as 26,000 head. They were identified as belonging to the Mission by a cattle brand that employed the letters T and S, the

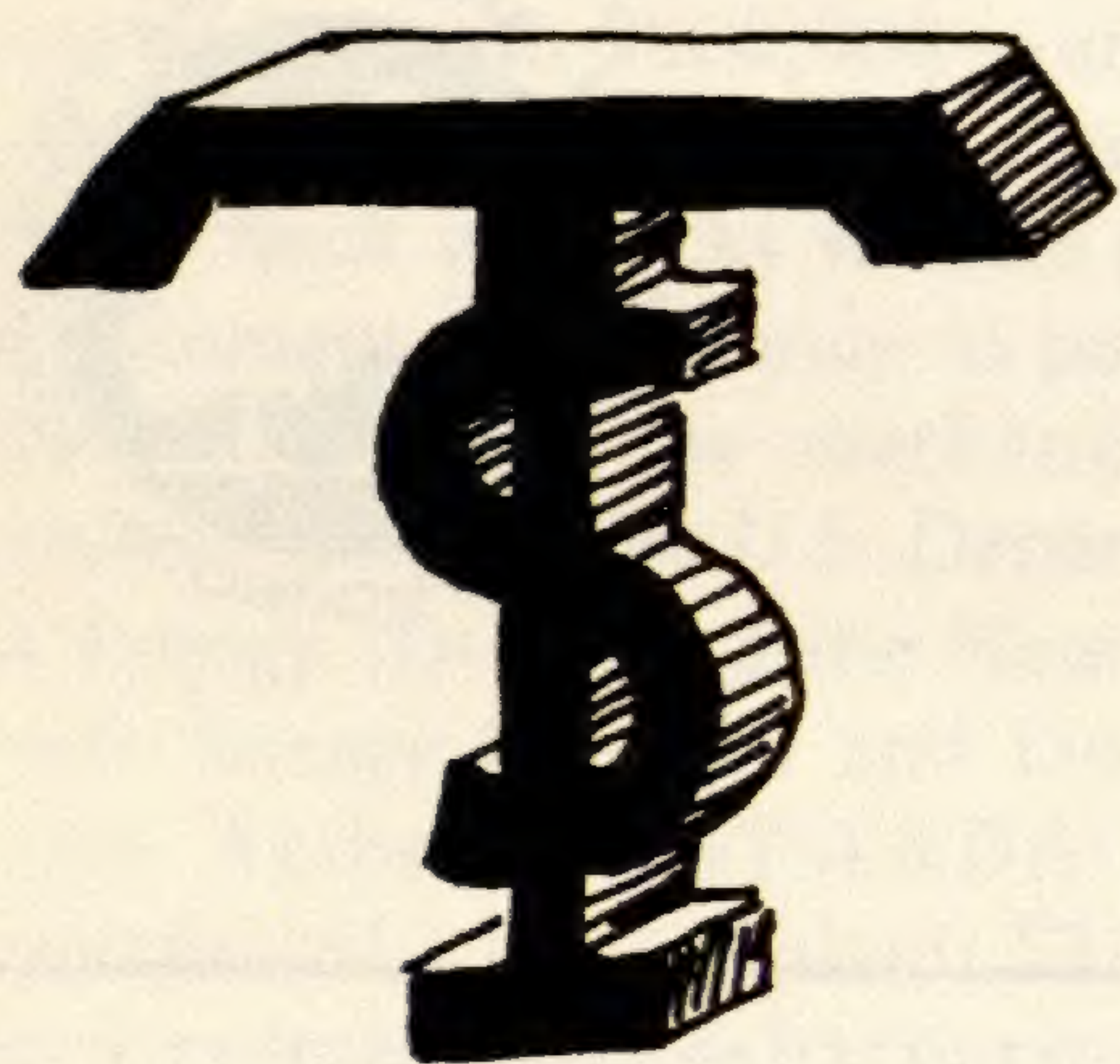
first and last letters of the word *temblores* (Spanish for earthquakes).

By 1784, soldiers stationed at the various missions and presidios throughout California were ready to retire from military service. Rather than returning to Mexico proper, numbers of them asked Governor Pedro Fages for land grants where they could settle to raise their families and which they could stock with cattle. In that particular year, three Spanish land grants were issued in Southern California, all in the area of Mission San Gabriel and the Los Angeles pueblo.

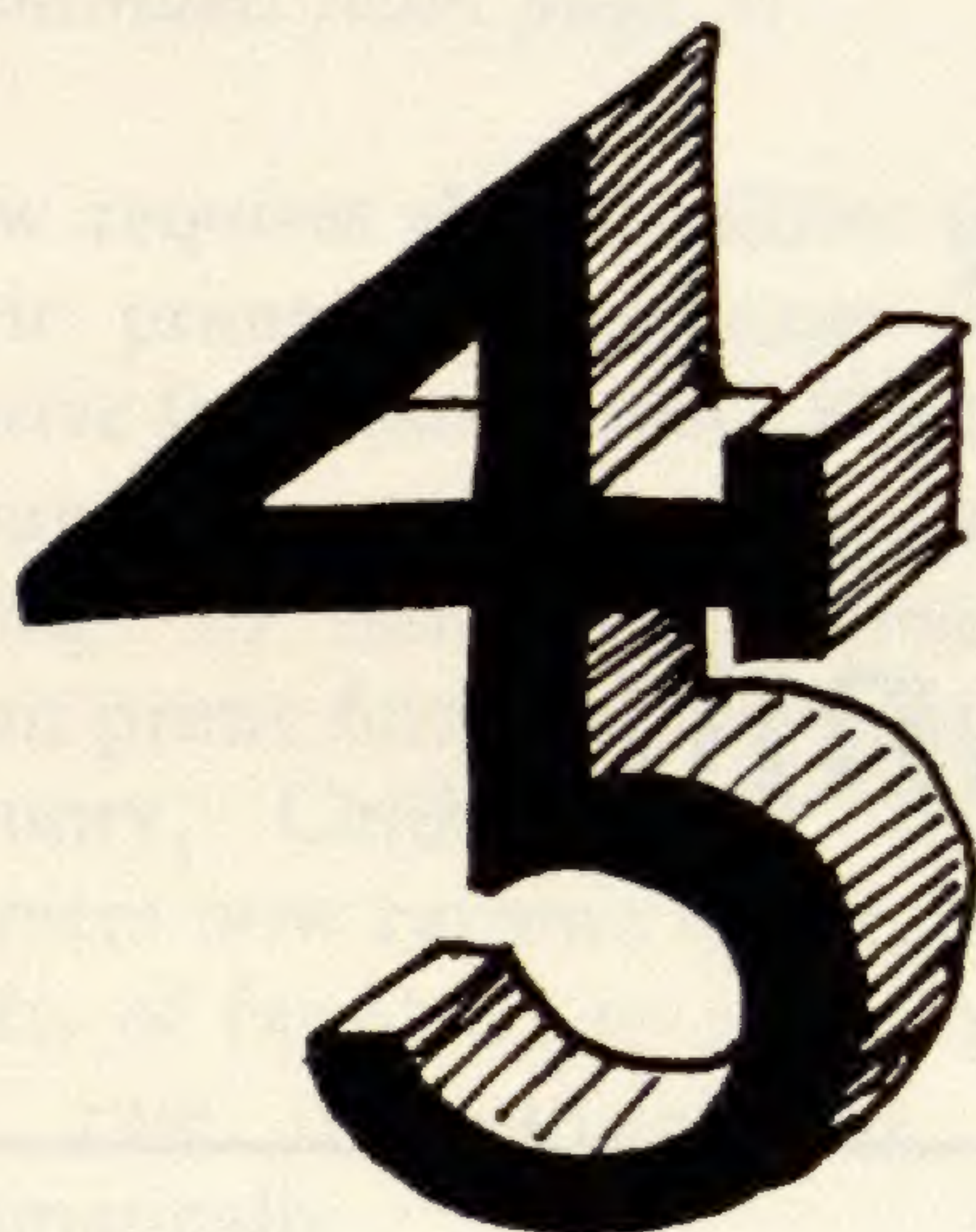
After Mexico won its independence from Spain in 1822, the Mexican government in California continued the practice of issuing land

grants. By the 1840s the Los Angeles area was divided into more than 40 ranchos.

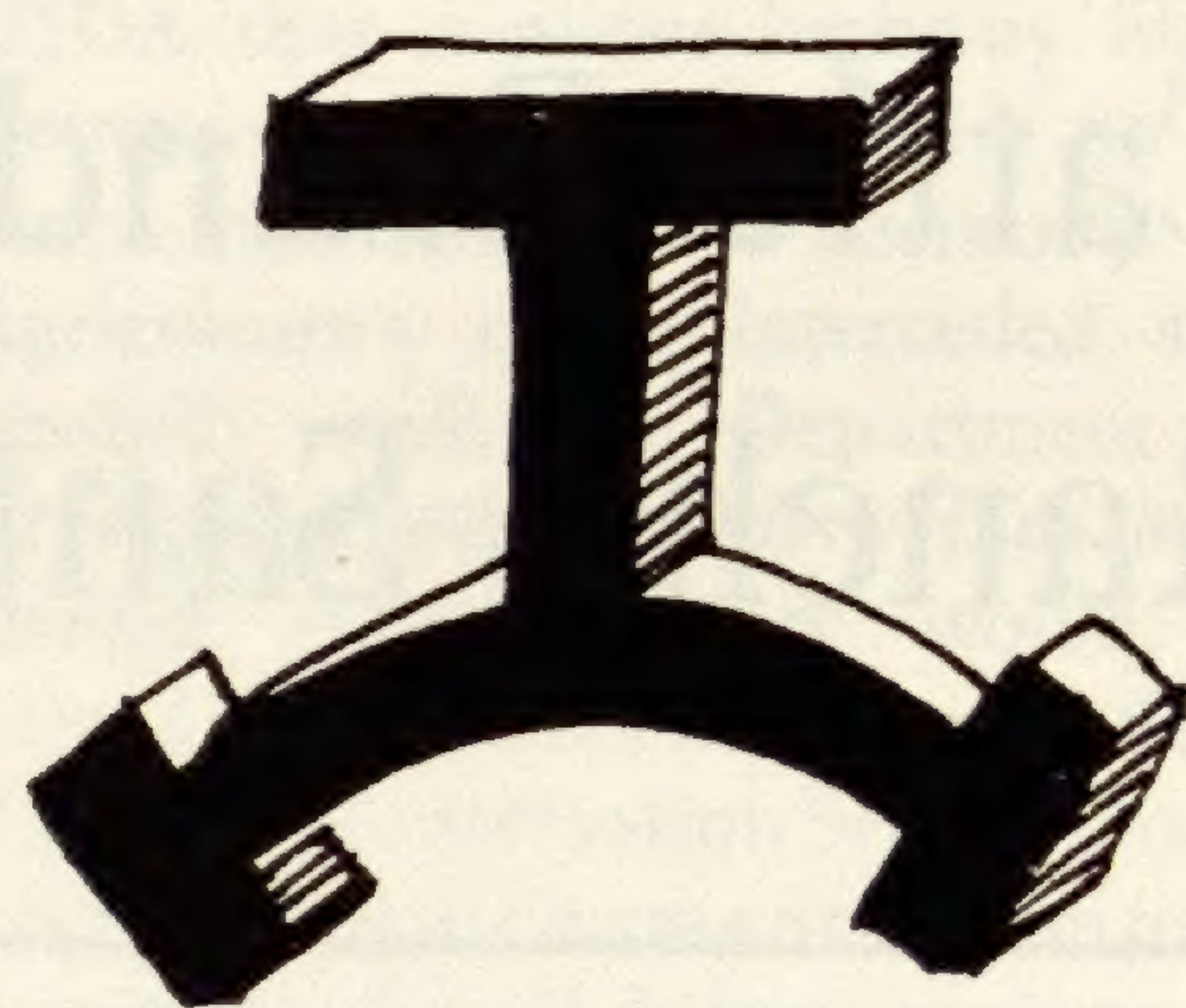
Since no fences separated the ranchos from each other, the cattle and horses from different ranchos mingled together and roamed freely across vast open land. At roundup time, in consequence, the ranchero had to rely on a quick visual means of identifying his own animals. Such a means was his personal cattle brand and ear mark or cut. Each animal was branded on its hip and had its ears notched in some particular way, thus providing the mounted vaquero with recognition of ownership as he made his way on horseback through a herd. Ear marks solved the problem of brands



Mission San Gabriel



Hugo Reid



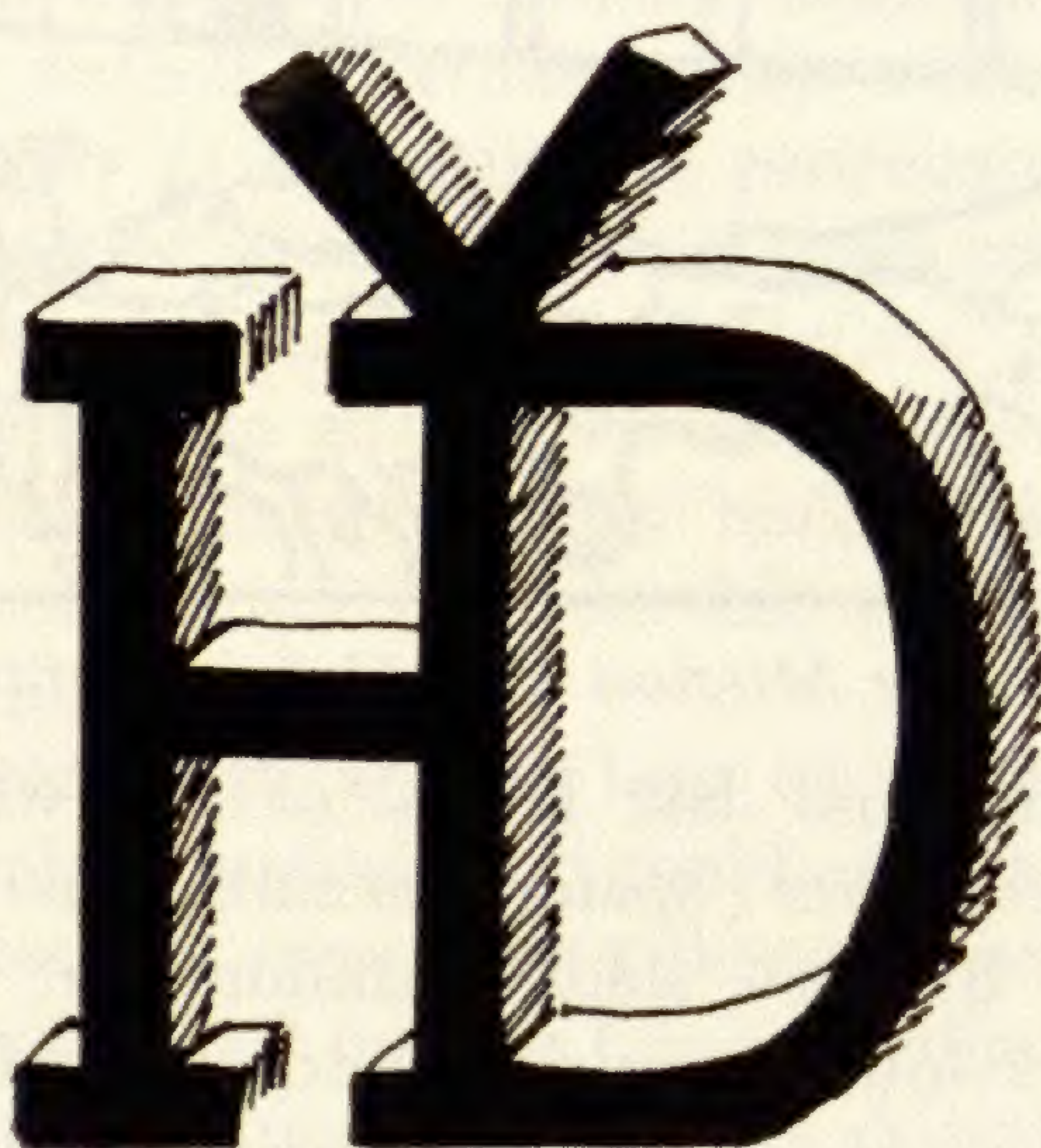
Henry Dalton

being difficult to see when animals were crowded together or when high weeds obscured animals hips.

To avoid disputes over ownership, rancheros registered their individual cattle brands and ear marks; each was duly registered to prove its uninterrupted validity. *Archivos de Fieros y Senales* is the Spanish title of the official register in which the brands and markings were recorded. It is still in existence, kept in the office of the Los Angeles County Recorder. Its pages contain the official description of brand and ear mark, the name of the ranchero registering it, the date of registration, and, in the margin, a free-hand drawing of the brand and ear marks. Since the quality of these drawings depended on the artistic ability of the recorder at the time, some are extremely crude and others elaborate. The *Archivos* served as this writer's primary source for researching brands registered to the owners of Rancho Santa Anita.

Raising cattle was a thriving business in California when Perfecto Hugo Reid, the first owner of the Rancho Santa Anita, came upon the scene. Reid was not a native-born Mexican, but a Scotsman who arrived in California in 1836. He became a Mexican citizen and married Victoria, an Indian woman, in 1837, made San Gabriel his home in 1838,

and petitioned for Santa Anita in 1839. In 1841, Governor Alvarado gave him provisional title to Rancho Santa Anita. Governor Pio Pico gave him full title in 1845 to 13,319.06



Henry Dalton's counterbrand

acres. Reid registered his cattle brand and mark April 21, 1840.

Hugo Reid sold Rancho Santa Anita to Henry Dalton in 1847 for \$2,700 (about 20 cents an acre). Dalton was an Englishman who settled in Southern California in 1843 after a successful business career in Lima, Peru. He married the daughter of Don Agustin Zamorano, California's first printer.

The Daltons made their home on Rancho Azusa. His brands show up

twice in the register between 1844 and 1850 and were registered again on June 16, 1855. His cattle were branded on the hip, and when one of them was sold, the *fierro de vente* or counter brand was burned on its shoulder.

Rancho Santa Anita changed hands again in 1854 when Joseph A. Rowe, the owner and star performer of California's Pioneer Circus, purchased it from Dalton for \$33,000. Rowe, who brought the first circus to California in 1849, retired from the sawdust ring to raise cattle, a few wild animals, and performing horses on his ranch. The Rowe cattle brand was registered June 10, 1855. Rowe and his wife, both trick riders, were inexperienced and unsuccessful ranchers. They sold the ranch at a loss — the only owners to do so — and went back into show business.

Thus it was that in 1858, after paying Rowe \$16,645, William Corbitt and Albert Dibblee became the new owners of Rancho Santa Anita. Dibblee, a prominent businessman in San Francisco, had bought the rancho sight unseen as an investment in partnership with Corbitt, a promoter and trader who lived in Los Angeles. Neither of the joint owners ever resided on the rancho, leaving its management to Albert Dibblee's younger brother, Thomas.



Joseph A. Rowe



Albert & Thomas Dibblee



Harris Newmark

Their cattle brand was registered August 29, 1861, under the names of Albert and Thomas Dibblee. (Incidentally, this brand is still used today by Dibblee descendants on their ranch near Lompoc in Santa Barbara County.)

The owners of Rancho Santa Anita held great expectations for their property until the 1860s ushered in the years of drought that would bring the great days of cattle ranching in Southern California to an end. In 1865 the partners decided to dispose of the land. This time, the rancho was sold in two sections. The first went to Leonard Rose who purchased 2,000 acres on the west which he called "Sunnyslope," and the second went to William Wolfskill, who already owned the adjoining Rancho Azusa de Duarte.

Wolfskill, a widely-known horticulturist who had come to California in 1831, paid \$20,000 for the 11,316 acres that included the home-site. He planted some eucalyptus trees from Australia and a few date palms, which he has received credit for introducing into California. Wolfskill registered an ear mark May 15, 1861. The brand books also show several brands transferred to his name when he purchased herds of cattle and horses bearing those marks. He died in 1866, leaving

both Rancho Santa Anita and Rancho Azusa de Duarte to his youngest son, Louis Wolfskill.

Although Louis, named after Louis Vignes and married to the



William Wolfskill's earmark

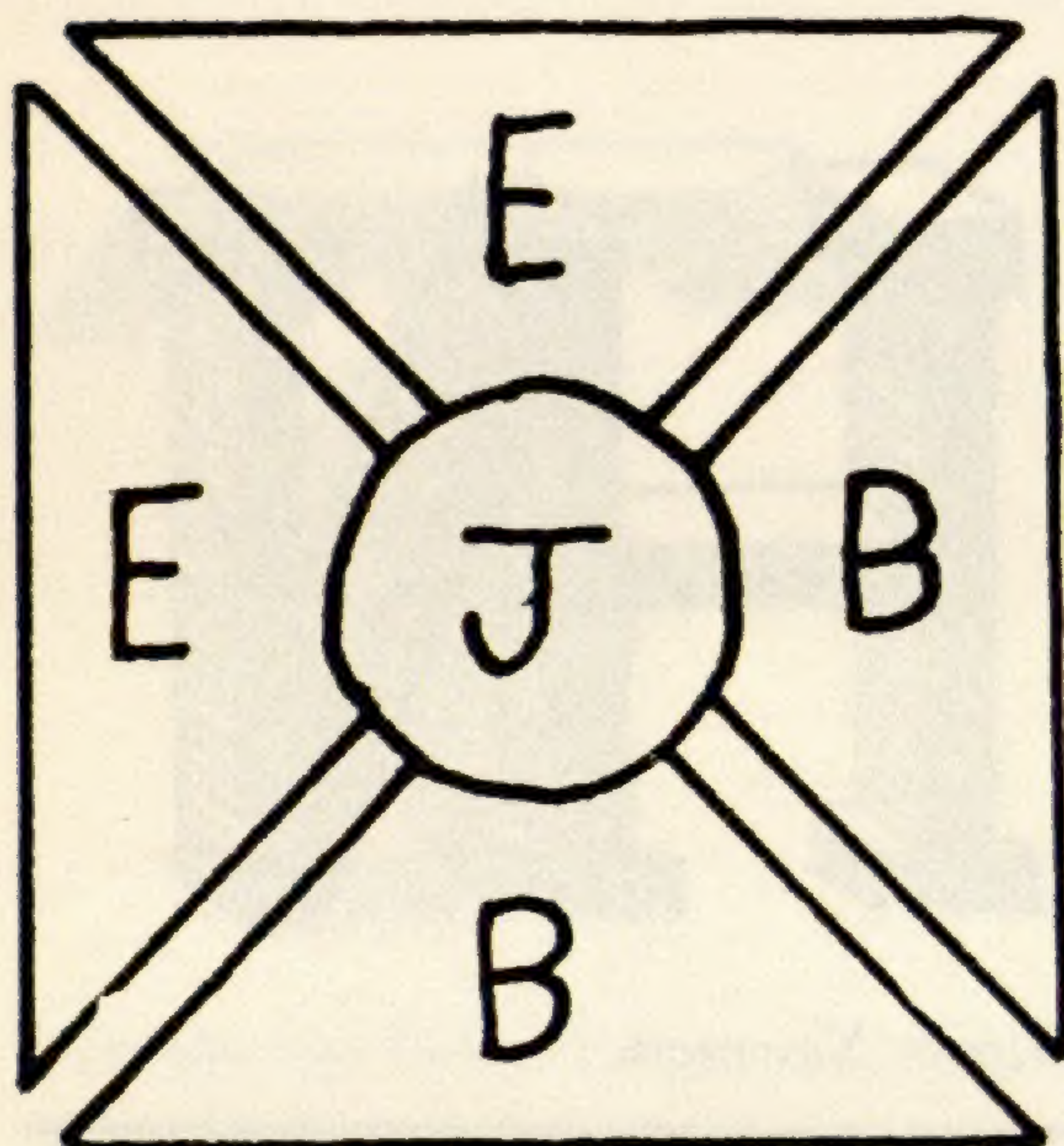
daughter of Henry Dalton, worked at developing the Rancho Santa Anita, he, too, did not wait long before selling it. First to go were 1,740 acres adjoining the Rose estate, purchased by Alfred Chapman for \$19,500. Then, in 1872, Louis Wolfskill sold the remainder of the rancho—a mere 8,000 acres—to Harris Newmark for the sum of \$85,000.

Newmark, merchant and author of *Sixty Years in Southern California*,

put more land under irrigation for orchards and vineyards. He pastured sheep in the foothills for a flourishing wool business in Los Angeles. Like the other owners before him, however, Newmark also sold the land in a few years at a nice profit. Purchaser of the 8,000 acres for \$200,000 was E. J. "Lucky" Baldwin in 1875.

"Lucky" Baldwin had made a fortune from the Comstock Lode and owned several enterprises in San Francisco, best-known among them the Baldwin Hotel and Theatre. He also owned Tallac Resort Hotel at Lake Tahoe. Baldwin first set eyes on the Rancho Santa Anita when he passed through the area on his way to check some mining property at Bear Valley in the San Bernardino Mountains. He developed the rancho to its acme of beauty and productivity, raising a variety of agricultural products and livestock. In addition to raising and racing thoroughbred horses, he built a winery and produced both wines and brandy.

Baldwin had no cattle brand, apparently because he considered branding cruel and inhumane, an infliction of needless pain. Instead of burning a brand into the hide of his animals, he relied for their identification on small numerals written on the horns of his cattle and on the



E. J. Baldwin's trademark

hoofs of horses and mules. He did, however, have a recorded "trademark," a Maltese cross bearing his initials, which was molded on all bottles from the winery. The same cross, colored red on a black field and minus his initials, served as his racing insignia.

After Baldwin's death in 1909, his daughter Anita continued raising livestock on the rancho, calling it the Anoakia Breeding Farm. In 1923 she decided to retire from the business and in 1934 sold 214 acres to the Los Angeles Turf Club. In July 1936 she sold all the remaining land except for 19 acres surrounding

her home Anoakia to Harry Chandler of *The Los Angeles Times* to be subdivided and sold as residential lots.

In 1947, the 111-acre homesite of the old rancho was jointly purchased by the state of California and the county of Los Angeles from Chandler for an arboretum and botanic garden. Another 16 acres was added to the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum at a later date.

Jack McCaskill, assistant plant recorder at the Arboretum, is a member of many local historical societies.

(Illustrations by Jim Johnson)

LOS ANGELES STATE AND COUNTY ARBORETUM, Arcadia

JANUARY 11 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Bulb Sale
Southern California Gladiolus Soc.**

JANUARY 16 — 8 p.m.
Lecture by Mark Hoefs
"Flora of Catalina"
Theodore Payne Foundation**

JANUARY 24, 25 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Bonsai Show
Baiko-en Bonsai Kenkyukai Soc.**

FEBRUARY 14, 15 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Camellia Show
Temple City Camellia Society**

MARCH 14 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cooperative Action Environmental
Education Resources Fair
Hosted by Los Angeles State &
County Arboretum

MARCH 21, 22 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Flower Show
Girl Scouts of America**

*Sponsored by California Arboretum
Foundation

**Co-sponsored by California Arboretum
Foundation

DESCANSO GARDENS, La Canada

JANUARY 11 — 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Rose Pruning Demonstration*
George Lewis, superintendent

CALENDAR

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH

FEBRUARY 11 — 8 p.m.
Lecture by Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Mershon
"A Wilderness Walk — Mountains,
Deserts, and Valleys"
Theodore Payne Foundation**

**FEBRUARY 28, MARCH 1 —
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**
Camellia Show
Camellia Council**

MARCH 14, 15 — 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Daffodil Show
Daffodil Society of So. California**

*Sponsored by Descanso Gardens Guild

**Co-sponsored by Descanso Gardens
Guild

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN, Palos Verdes Peninsula

JANUARY 4 — 2 p.m.
Lecture* by Florence Sullivan
"How to Have Year Round Color in
Your Garden"

JANUARY 11 — 2 p.m.
Rose Pruning Demonstration
South Coast Rose Society**

JANUARY 18 — 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Fruit Tree Pruning Demonstration*
Armand Sarinana, superintendent

**JANUARY 24, 25 — Sat. 2 to 4:30 p.m.
Sun. 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

Camellia Show
South Coast Camellia Society**

FEBRUARY 1 — 2 p.m.
Demonstration* by Bill Bailey,
professional grower
"How to Grow Orchids Outdoors"

FEBRUARY 8 — 2 p.m.
Fuchsia Pruning Demonstration
South Coast Fuchsia Society**

FEBRUARY 22 — 2 p.m.
Camellia Pruning Demonstration
South Coast Camellia Society**

**FEBRUARY 28, MARCH 1 —
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**
Japanese Doll and Cultural Show**

MARCH 8 — 2 p.m.
Demonstration
"How to Repot and Divide Cactus and
Succulents"
South Coast Cactus and Succulent
Society**

MARCH 15 — 2 p.m.
Demonstration by Fred McKelvey*
"Now is the Time to Divide and Plant
Dahlias"

MARCH 22 — 2 p.m.
Demonstration by Ilene De Long*
"Flower Arrangements of Dried
Materials"

MARCH 29 — 2 p.m.
Lecture by Don Walker, landscape
designer*
"Landscaping for Color with Flowering
Trees and Shrubs"

*Sponsored by South Coast Botanic
Garden Foundation

**Co-Sponsored by South Coast Botanic
Garden Foundation